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Governor
Deval Patrick

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GOVERNOR PATRICK HIGHLIGHTS GROWTH OF SOLAR INDUSTRY
WITH VISIT TO SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION

Massachusetts jobs in solar manufacturing, installation and service nearly tripled since 2007, survey shows

BOSTON - Thursday, August 19, 2010 - As part of the Patrick-Murray Administration's Massachusetts Recovery Plan to secure the state's economic future, Governor Deval Patrick today visited solar photovoltaic (PV) systems installed at Salem State University in Salem, where he highlighted dramatic growth in the Massachusetts solar PV industry since the launch of the Commonwealth Solar program in 2008.

The Patrick-Murray Administration's emphasis on solar power, spurred by Governor Patrick's goal of 250 megawatts (MW) installed by 2017 has catalyzed the growth of a vibrant solar industry in Massachusetts. According to a recent survey of clean energy companies conducted by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), employment in solar manufacturing, installation and services has nearly tripled since Governor Patrick first took office, from 1,200 jobs in 2007 to roughly 3,000 expected by the end of 2010. Solar manufacturing jobs alone have jumped from 750 in 2007 to 2,000 in 2010.

"Clean energy technology is a huge economic opportunity for Massachusetts, and our success in solar power is a prime example of that," said Governor Patrick. "We are using all the levers at our disposal to make solar power an option for residents, businesses, and institutions, and then meet the demand with Massachusetts-made products installed by Massachusetts workers."

"We are well on the way toward reaching Governor Patrick's 250 MW goal, and are reaping the benefits in jobs as well as clean energy," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Ian Bowles.

"It is because of the leadership of Governor Patrick and innovative programs like Commonwealth Solar that Massachusetts is seeing such astounding growth in its solar industry in hard economic times," said MassCEC Executive Director Patrick Cloney. "We are proud to see institutions such as Salem State working toward a clean energy future."

In 2009, Salem State completed the installation of a 68 kW PV array on Atlantic Hall, a dormitory built in 2004 on a former industrial brownfield site. The PV system was installed by Massachusetts-based Broadway Electrical, and was funded by MassCEC's Commonwealth Solar rebate program and by the Division of Capital Asset Management through Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs). Salem State is also in the process of installing another 148 kW solar PV system using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Solar PV projects assisted by Commonwealth Solar rebates, as well as solar installations supported by federal stimulus funds on water treatment facilities and other public buildings, will bring the state to more than 60 MW of solar power installed or under contract by the end of 2010, up from 3.5 MW when Governor Patrick took office.

Between January 2008 and December 2009, Commonwealth Solar's initial phase awarded nearly 1,300 rebates for residential, commercial and municipal projects capable of generating 23.5 MW of electricity - enough to power nearly 3,750 homes in Massachusetts. On the heels of that success, in late January MassCEC launched two new solar rebate programs - Commonwealth Solar II and Commonwealth Solar Stimulus. Funding for Commonwealth Solar Stimulus comes from \$8 million in State Energy Program funding awarded to the Department of Energy Resources under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Commonwealth Solar Stimulus has awarded funds to 102 solar projects in Massachusetts for 7.8 MW of solar power. In addition, the Commonwealth awarded the largest solar installation contract in the state's history - \$20 million for 4.1 MW of solar on waterworks facilities - early this year, funded by ARRA monies from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In all, the Commonwealth has dedicated over \$160 million of renewable energy and federal funds to support investment in solar energy totaling almost \$330 million.

Going forward, a new Solar Credit program will support larger installations of solar PV in the future, while Commonwealth Solar II

will continue to provide rebates for smaller residential and commercial systems.

For an online map showing the growth of solar power in Massachusetts, go to <http://www.masscec.com/index.cfm/page/Going-Solar-in-Massachusetts/cdid/11581/pid/11151>.

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